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Accommodation control

* 228 *Q.*—Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state— 3-20 p.m.

(*a*) whether the employees of the Indian Railways, Reserve Bank of India and State Electricity Board are denied the benefits of accommodation control under the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, 1960; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Srimathi JOTHI VENCATACHELLAM : (*a*) & (*b*) Under section 3 (3) of the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Act, buildings can be taken over and allotted to any officer of the Central or State Government for his occupation. But under the executive orders of the Government which were based on the recommendation of the Joint Select Committee on the Madras Buildings (Lease and Rent Control) Bill, 1960, the allotment of house is now restricted to certain classes of Government servants. Employees of the Reserve Bank of India are being allotted houses and the question of allotting houses to the employees of the State Electricity Board and the Indian Railways is under consideration of Government.

Female nurses

* 229 *Q.*—Sri T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that house rent allowance is not paid to female nurses who are married and if so, the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Srimathi JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : Women nurses, whether married or unmarried are expected to stay in the Government quarters. The quarters are allowed free of rent and certain other facilities are also provided free of cost. If married nurses wish to stay outside the Government quarters, in deserving cases, they are permitted to do so. But, they are not eligible to draw any house rent allowance.

Sri T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Sir, is it a fact that married persons are not permitted to stay in the hostels for nurses?

The Hon. Srimathi JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM : They are allowed to stay there, but they are not given house-rent allowance.

Sri T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : In the case of N.G.Os., whether the N.G.O. is a female or a male, the house rent allowance is granted. In the case of nurses also, is the house-rent allowance granted if unmarried? Am I right in saying that

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married nurses are not permitted to stay in the quarters for nurses and that hence they have to reside outside? In that case, why should not house rent allowance be granted?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: Sir, I wish to explain the position. In the case of married nurses, we feel that the family is not entirely dependent on the nurse and that she is not the head of the family. So, we do not consider it necessary to grant house-rent allowance.

Incitement of communal hatred

*230 Q.—SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of cases in which action has been taken against newspapers and magazines for incitement of communal hatred since January 1962 till date;

(b) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to an article in the issue, dated 27th May 1962 of 'Sarvathikari', a Tamil weekly, in which incitement of communal hatred has been made; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister): (a) Nil.

(b) & (c): Yes. The Government have decided that being the first occasion, when the paper had come for adverse notice, no action need be taken.

Reserve Police Party

*231 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that a Reserve Police party had been stationed in Kappaloor, Ramanathapuram district during March 1962; and

(b) if so, the strength of the force and the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Underground water resources

*232 Q.—VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government has recently sought the advice of any geologist regarding the exploration of underground water resources in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?